

Opportunity for high school artists to showcase talents and compete for entry in national competition

February 17, 2010

MEDIA, PA - Today, Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) announced that the Seventh Congressional District of Pennsylvania will participate in the 2010 Congressional High School Art Competition. Themed "An Artistic Discovery," this event provides a chance for some of our most talented young artists to display their abilities.

The contest allows high school students living in the Seventh Congressional District to submit their artwork and compete for the grand prize of having their art displayed in the Halls of the Capitol for one year. In addition, the winner will have the opportunity to apply for a \$1,500 per year scholarship at a prestigious institution for the arts. Various forms of media will be considered and the winner will be chosen by a board of art enthusiasts and experts.

Each winner of a district level competition and a guest will be invited to Washington D.C. to attend a June 17, 2010 ceremony honoring winners from across the country. Southwest Airlines will provide free air travel to and from Washington D.C. for the winner and his/her guest.

Every high school that serves the 7th Congressional District may submit 5 pieces of student art. Schools must RSVP by March 19, 2010 at <http://www.sestak.house.gov/events> or by calling Congressman Sestak's District office (610-892-08623). Competition guidelines and other event information is available online at <http://www.sestak.house.gov/events>

"I am proud the Seventh Congressional District is participating in this program. I hope you will join me and these outstanding young artists on April 19.

"Art has always been a reflection of our culture and our civility," noted Congressman Joe Sestak, "and we must make it a priority in our federal, state, and school budgets. We all need to work toward more investment in the arts just as John F. Kennedy suggested when he said, 'I look forward to an America which will reward achievement in the arts as we reward achievement in business or statecraft. I look forward to an America which will steadily raise the standards of artistic accomplishment and which will steadily enlarge cultural opportunities for all of our citizens. And I look forward to an America which commands respect throughout the world not only for its strength but for its civilization as well.'"

What: 7th Congressional District High School Art Competition

When: Monday, April 19, 7:00PM – 9:00PM

Where: Wayne Art Center (205 Conestoga Road, Wayne PA 19087)

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group

of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of “Deep Blue,” the Navy’s anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the “Global War on Terrorism.” He served as President Clinton’s Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.

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